

In the Claims:

1. **(currently amended)** A pigment, comprising
(A) optionally a layer consisting of a metal,
(B) at least one layer, which is located between the layers (A) and (C), if a layer (A) is present, and consists of the metal, silicon (Si) and oxygen (O), obtained by calcination of plane-parallel structures (flakes) comprising at least one layer consisting of a metal and at least one layer consisting of SiO_z with $0.70 \leq z \leq 2.0$, in a non-oxidizing atmosphere and
(C) optionally a layer consisting of SiO_z on layer (B), wherein $0.70 \leq z \leq 2.0$,
wherein the metal of layer A, when present, is the metal of layer B.
2. **(previously presented)** A pigment according to claim 1, comprising
layer (B) and
(C) at least one layer consisting of SiO_z on layer (B), wherein $0.70 \leq z \leq 2.0$.
3. **(previously presented)** The pigment according to claim 1, comprising
(C1) a layer consisting of SiO_z ,
(B) which is located between the layers (C1) and (C2),
(C2) at least one layer consisting of SiO_z on layer (B), wherein $0.70 \leq z \leq 2.0$.
4. **(previously presented)** The pigment according to claim 3, comprising
(D) an additional layer of a material having an index of refraction greater than about 1.65.
5. **(previously presented)** The pigment according to claim 4, comprising
(D1) a layer of a material having an index of refraction greater than about 1.65,
(C1) a layer consisting of SiO_z ,
layer (B) which is located between the layers (C1) and (C2),
(C2) a layer consisting of SiO_z , and
(D2) a layer of a material having an index of refraction greater than about 1.65,
wherein $0.70 \leq z \leq 2.0$.
6. **(previously presented)** The pigment according to claim 1, wherein the metal is selected from Ag, Al, Cu, Cr, Mo, Ni, Ti, or alloys thereof.

7. **(previously presented)** The pigment according to claim 3 having the following layer structure: $\text{TiO}_2/\text{SiO}_2/\text{core}/\text{SiO}_2/\text{TiO}_2$, wherein the core is formed of a layer (B) or of a layer (B)/layer (A)/layer (B), wherein the layer (B) is present on the plane-parallel faces, but not the side faces of layer (A), wherein the SiO_2 layer is only present on the plane-parallel faces, but not the side faces and the TiO_2 layer is applied to the whole surface; $\text{SiC}/\text{SiO}_2/\text{core}/\text{SiO}_2/\text{SiC}$, or $\text{C}/\text{SiO}_2/\text{core}/\text{SiO}_2/\text{C}$, wherein $0.70 \leq z \leq 2.0$.
8. **(previously presented)** A pigment, obtained by calcination of plane-parallel structures (flakes), comprising (A) at least one layer consisting of a metal and (C) at least one layer consisting of SiO_2 with $0.70 \leq z \leq 2.0$, in a non-oxidizing atmosphere and optionally coating of the obtained flakes with further layers.
9. **(cancelled)**
10. **(cancelled)**
11. **(previously presented)** A textile, coating, paint, printing ink, plastic composition, cosmetic preparation, or a glaze for ceramic and glass, comprising a pigment according to claim 1.
12. **(cancelled).**
13. **(previously presented)** A pigment according to claim 1, wherein $1.40 \leq z \leq 2.0$.
14. **(previously presented)** A pigment according to claim 2, wherein $1.40 \leq z \leq 2.0$.
15. **(previously presented)** The pigment according to claim 4, wherein the material comprising the additional layer (D) having a high index of refraction is selected from the group consisting of TiO_2 , amorphous carbon, diamond-like carbon and silicon carbide.
16. **(previously presented)** A pigment according to claim 5, wherein $1.40 \leq z \leq 2.0$.

17. **(previously presented)** The pigment according to claim 5, wherein the material comprising layers (D1) and (D2) is TiO_2 .

18-19. **(cancelled)**

20. **(previously presented)** A textile, coating, paint, printing ink, plastic, composition, cosmetic preparation, or a glaze for ceramic and glass, comprising a pigment according to claim 2.

21. **(previously presented)** A textile, coating, paint, printing ink, plastic, composition, cosmetic preparation, or a glaze for ceramic and glass, comprising a pigment according to claim 8.

22. **(previously presented)** A textile, coating, paint, printing ink, plastic, composition, cosmetic preparation, or a glaze for ceramic and glass, comprising a pigment according to claim 13.